



**2006**

**Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl Poster Contest**  
**“Help Us Stop the Invaders”**  
**Deadline: January 15, 2006**

The National Garden Club Inc. and the USDA Forest Service invites 1st through 5th grade students to participate in the 2006 Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl Garden Club poster contest. This year, we will dedicate the contest to help prevent the spread of invasive species in our Nation’s forests.

*Invasive species can be plants and animals, and other organisms (e.g. microbes) that are non-native to an area. Human actions are the primary means of invasive introductions.*

**National Grand Prize Winner**

The National Grand Prize winner will win a free trip to Washington, DC, for an award presentation ceremony. This trip includes round-trip airfare and accommodations for four. A U.S. Savings Bond will be awarded the first place winner for each grade level as well. National grade level winners and the National Grand Prize winner will be announced at the 2006 National Garden Clubs, Inc., Convention and will also be posted on the [www.symbols.gov](http://www.symbols.gov) website.

**Sponsors**

The USDA Forest Service and the National Garden Clubs, Inc., sponsors the Smokey Bear Poster Contest every year to promote wildfire prevention education and conservation, emphasizing everyone’s role of self-responsibility for our environment.

## About the Icons:

Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl are protected under Public Law 93-318.  
16USC580p-4 & 18USC711



**Smokey Bear** is highly recognized and internationally known as the symbol for wildfire prevention. You've seen him dressed in a ranger's hat and blue jeans carrying a shovel. The original Smokey Bear appeared in 1941. Smokey's message of personal responsibility, "Remember, Only You Can Prevent Wildfires," is one that children have heard for many years, encouraging personal responsibility for fire prevention. Smokey Bear teaches children and adults to be careful with camp-fires, barbecues, trash fires, cigarettes, and matches.



**Woodsy Owl**, America's icon for environmental education, symbolizes natural resource conservation. Since 1971, Woodsy has been helping parents and teachers inspire children to observe, explore, and care for the environment. He challenges children to "Lend a Hand—Care for the Land." Woodsy Owl encourages children to join him by taking an active role in caring for the land through recycling, reusing, and reducing waste; planting and caring for trees; using resources wisely (such as not wasting water or electricity); not littering; and generally caring for the planet we live on.

## Poster Rules

1. Posters must feature Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl.
2. Smokey posters should be based upon fire prevention and stopping the spread of invasive species.
3. The entry posters should encourage children to take a personal role in preventing wildfires or conserving natural resources by preventing the spread of invasive species.
4. Each entry should be 11 x 17 inches in size.
5. Materials that can be used: crayons, markers, poster paints, watercolors, etc.
6. No three-dimensional posters, computer-scanned, or electronically generated images will be accepted!
7. Please print the artist's name, address, home phone number, grade level, school, teacher's name, city, and state on the back of the poster in the lower right corner.
8. Do not use dark marker for this as it may show through.
9. **Submit poster entries no later than January 15, 2006, to your State's National Garden Clubs, Inc., at the following address:**

**ADD YOUR STATE POSTER CONTEST CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS HERE**

## Poster Tips

1. A good poster is bold and simple in design.
2. Its message is delivered in both the picture and the slogan.
3. Its message is easily understood.
4. Posters are to be completed by individual student artists. Competition may include students from 1st to 5th grade.
5. Posters will be judged 20 percent each for originality, design, slogan, artwork, and overall effectiveness of the message.

## **Property Rights**

All entries will become property of the USDA Forest Service. Posters will not be returned to contestants. The USDA Forest Service or the National Garden Clubs, Inc., may use the poster artwork for national educational materials and outreach.

## **More about Invasive Species**

Once introduced, these species of plants and animals take over a site on private and public lands, streams, and waterways. Taxpayers bear the cost of \$137 billion a year to stop, control, and treat invasive species, characterized as a “catastrophic wildfire in a slow motion.” In general non-native weeds, insects, and diseases are difficult to prevent, eradicate, control, and manage. Help us raise awareness about this terrible threat our Nation’s forests are facing among our young children. For more information about invasive species, please connect with [www.invasivespecies.gov](http://www.invasivespecies.gov).

### **For More Information about Invasive Species:**

USDA Forest Service - <http://www.fs.fed.us/rangelands/ecology/invasives>

USDA Forest Service - <http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth>

USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service -

<http://aphis.usda.gov/oa/invasive/invasive.html>

USDI Bureau of Land Management - <http://www.blm.gov/weeds>

USDA Fish and Wildlife Service -

<http://www.contaminants.fws.gov/Issues/InvasiveSpecies.cfm>

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force – <http://www.anstaskforce.gov>